

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 /061 W
-----094387 281807Z /50

O 281744Z APR 78
FM USMISSION USNATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1151
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO FPA WASHDC
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 04369

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES: MAY 2 EWG MEETING
DN LTDP COMPREHENSIVE REPORT

REF: STATE 108455 DTG 280118Z APR 78

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1. ON APRIL 28 WE CONTACTED THE FRG DEFAD (VON SANDRART),
THE UK DEFAD (PETERS), AND THE SHAPE EWG REP (SCHWEITZER)
RE PARA 8A REFTEL CONCERNING FORWARD STATIONING OF
THE DUTCH BRIGADE. VON SANDRART SAID HE THOUGHT BONN
COULD SUPPORT THE US PROPOSAL. WHILE SUPPORTING THE
US LANGUAGE ON A PERSONAL BASIS, PETERS INDICATED
THAT HE THOUGHT IT WOULD NOT BE A GOOD IDEA TO STIR
THE POT. AT THE MAY 2 EWG MEETING, HE HAD PLANNED
TO LET SLEEPING DOGS LIE, SIMPLY ASKING FOR RETENTION
OF THE UK FOOTNOTE IN ORDER TO PASS OVER THE DISPUTED
PARAGRAPH QUICKLY. ON A PERSONAL BASIS, SCHWEITZER
SAID HE SUPPORTED THE US PROPOSAL.

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2. VON SANDRART INDICATED THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED
TO TRY TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING CHANGE IN PARA 7 (ACCS),
ANNEX E (AIR DEFENSE): IN THE SECOND LINE, DELETE
THE WORDS "DEFENCE" AND "ALL". IF THIS TURNED OUT
TO BE ACCEPTABLE, HE COULD WITHDRAW FRG FOOTNOTE (1).
COMMENT: THIS WOULD NOT REALLY BE A TRADE-OFF SINCE

WE BELIEVE THE FRG IS PREPARED TO FALL OFF FOOTNOTE

(1) ANYWAY. END COMMENT.

3. PETERS INDICATED THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTIONS TO
TRY TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

- A. SUMMIT REPORT, PARA 12, LINE 7: DELETE "PURSUE
THE CURRENT COOPERATIVE" AND SUBSTITUTE THEREFOR
"EXAMINE THE SCOPE FOR." (PETERS LINKED THIS FIX TO
THE RECENT FOUR-POWER DISCUSSIONS IN LONDON AND THE
RESULTANT MOU SIGNED ON 26 APRIL.)

- B. ANNEX D (MARITIME POSTURE), PARA 12(C)(III),
LINE 1: DELETE "COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT" AND
SUBSTITUTE THEREFOR "COOPERATION." (PETERS LINKED
THIS FIX TO "SENSITIVE BI-LATERAL ON GOING WORK.")

- C. ANNEX D (MARITIME POSTURE), PARA 12(D)(I),
FIRST LINE: DELETE "COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT" AND
SUBSTITUTE THEREFOR "ONGOING STUDIES."

- D. ANNEX F (C3). PARA 6, LAST LINE: INSERT
THE WORDS "OR CO-ORDINATEDLY" AT THE BEGINNING OF
THE LINE BEFORE THE WORD "DEVELOPED."

4. ACTION REQUESTED: RE THE DUTCH BRIGADE, WE PASS
PETERS COMMENT ALONG FOR WASHINGTON'S INFORMATION IN
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CONSIDERING WHETHER WE SHOULD TABLE THE US PROPOSAL
(PARA 8A, REFTTEL) AT THE MAY 2 EWG. RE THE FRG AND
UK FIXES IN PARAS 2 AND 3 ABOVE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE
WASHINGTON GUIDANCE, IF POSSIBLE IN TIME FOR THE
MAY 2D EWG. IN THE ABSENCE OF GUIDANCE, WE WILL
PROPOSE THAT THESE FIXES GO FORWARD TO THE PERMREPS
AS NATIONAL FOOTNOTES. BENNETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, MEETING REPORTS, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USNATO04369
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780182-0599
Format: TEL
From: USNATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978043/aaaaabtq.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8a2854a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 108455
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2885919
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES: MAY 2 EWG MEETING DN LTDP COMPREHENSIVE REPORT
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8a2854a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014